

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are pending in this application. Of those claims, claims 1-17, 19, and 20 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.142(b). Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, claims 21, 23-27, 29, 30, 36, and 42 have been amended, and claim 18, 22, and 28 canceled. Specifically, claim 21 has been amended to include the limitations recited in claims 22 and 28. A minor error in the limitation originally recited in claim 28 has been corrected from "3 dB" to --3 dB/m-- (see, e.g., paragraph [0060] of the specification). Claims 23-27, and 29 have been amended to be dependent on claim 21. Claims 30, 36, and 42 have been amended to delete the limitations which are now recited in claim 21 upon which claims 30, 36, and 42 depend. Therefore, the present Amendment does not generate any new matter or any new issue for that matter. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is solicited pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Claims 21, 23-27, and 29-49 are now active in this application, of which claim 21 is independent.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed September 24, 2007. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge receipt of the IDS when reviewed and provide an appropriately initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form indicating consideration of the cited references.

Claim Rejections

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jameson et al.; claims 21-27, 30-37, 40-43, 46, and 49 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bickham et al.; claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jameson et al. and Nagayama et al. with further teachings of Chraplyvy et al.; claim 29 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bickham et al. and further in view of Sasaoka et al.; and claims 38, 39, 44, 45, 47, and 48 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bickham et al and further in view of Kato et al.

Applicants submit that the above rejections of the claims have been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 18 and 22, and the amendment of claim 21 to include the limitations recited in claim 28 which is indicated to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

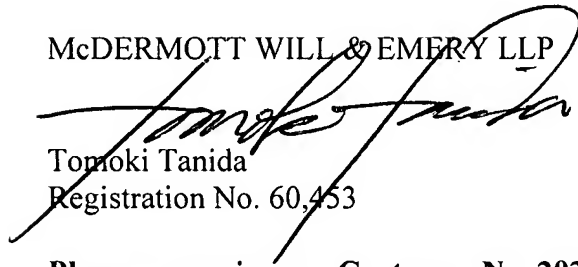
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tomoki Tanida', is written over the printed name and registration number.

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